established in the three Kurnool forest districts for the sale of such implements—ploughs, guntikadindly, nagatinoga, meditoka, kadimanu, dantedindlu, gortichekkalu, dantenagalu, guntikanagalu, dandechekkalu, bandinogalu ; and

(*b*) what arrangements have been made to advertise to the people the existence of such depots and such stocks?

A.—(*a*) A statement showing the stock of agricultural implements on 31st December 1927 in the Government depots of Kurnool East and West divisions is appended.[a] The Government are enquiring regarding the adequacy of the stocks. In the South Kurnool division Government depots deal only in timber. The fuel and pole coupes of this division from which agricultural implements are usually made are sold to contractors.

(*b*) In the East and West Kurnool divisions the existence of the depots, the details of the stock available in them and the selling rates are advertised every year in the District Gazette. In the South Kurnool division the fact that contractors are bound to sell agricultural implements to the local people is published in the sale notice in one or more issues of the District Gazette.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know what is the number of the private subscribers for the district gazette ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Have the Government tried to advertise the fact in the villages by beat of tom-tom ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I have no information."

Auction of fuel in Tiruvannamalai reserve forest.

*1840 *Q.*—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that till the year 1926–27 in the Tiruvannamalai reserve forest the coupes were customarily auctioned separately ;

(*b*) whether by that arrangement even the poor villagers were enabled to bid and then sell fuel at Rs. 4–4–0 or Rs. 4–8–0 a bandy ;

(*c*) whether this year the auction was held for the whole forest in the taluk and not by coupes which prevented the villagers from bidding and whether thereby the fuel concern was monopolized by one or two individuals, mostly townspeople, and the fuel was sold at two centres only at Rs. 6 and Rs. 6–4–0 per bandy ;

(*d*) whether the Government propose to continue the old practice of auctioning fuel by coupes ; and

(*e*) if not, what are the reasons for not doing so ?

A.—(*a*) From 1922–23 to 1926–27 all the fuel coupes of the Tiruvannamalai Range except one were sold in one lot.

(*b*) As the coupes were not auctioned separately for a considerable period up to 1926–27, this question does not arise.

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a Vide Appendix I on pages 280–281 infra.

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(c) In 1927–28 all the fuel coupes in the Tiruvannamalai Range were sold in one lot to the Co-operative Labour Union. The Government understand that the Co-operative Labour Union is selling fuel at rates lower than those of other private contractors.

(d) & (e) The fuel coupes of each felling series, six in number, will be sold separately in public auction in 1928–29 and thereafter.

Education

Educational concessions to depressed-class students in Malabar.

*1841 Q.—Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in Malabar some special scholarships and fee remissions are set apart for the students of the depressed classes, and if so, what is the number of those scholarships and fee remissions, how many of these were awarded in 1926–27 and 1927–28; and

(b) what is the number of the general scholarships allotted for Malabar and out of them, how many were awarded to Adi-Dravida students in the current year and what is the number of Adi-Dravida students who applied for scholarships from Malabar this year?

A.—(a) No scholarships are earmarked for award to pupils of the Malabar district. The following scholarships have been instituted in the Department of Public Instruction for the exclusive benefit of pupils belonging to depressed classes in the Presidency:—

(i) Eighteen collegiate scholarships.

(ii) Sixteen scholarships and an equal number of fee remissions commencing from the I form and continuing throughout the secondary school course, the value of the scholarships being Rs. 2–8–0 a month when held in forms I to III and Rs. 5, Rs. 6 and Rs. 7 a month in forms IV, V and VI respectively.

(iii) Twenty-seven scholarships of Rs. 3 each a month commencing in standard VI and renewable in standards VII and VIII of higher elementary schools.

The award of these scholarships is regulated by the orders of the Director of Public Instruction according to the needs of districts. Full details of the manner in which the scholarships were awarded in 1926–27 and 1927–28 are not available with Government.

The hon. Member is referred to paragraph 45 of the Administration Report of the Labour Department for 1926–27 for particulars of the scholarships awarded by the Commissioner of Labour for the depressed classes. Districtwar information is not available.